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Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
16-24 February 2016

Draft report

Rapporteur: Nadia Alexandra **Kalb** (Austria)

II. Maintenance of international peace and security

C. Consideration of the further revised working paper submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela entitled "Open-ended working group to study the proper implementation of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the functional relationship of its organs"

1. The further revised working paper entitled "Open-ended working group to study the proper implementation of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the functional relationship of its organs", submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the 2011 session of the Special Committee (see A/66/33, annex), was referred to during the general exchange of views held at the 281st and 282nd meetings of the Special Committee, on 16 and 17 February 2016, and was considered at the 1st meeting of the Working Group of the Whole.

2. In their general comments, several delegations reiterated their concern that the Security Council had encroached on the functions and competences of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council by addressing issues that fell within the competence of those organs. Some emphasized that there was a need to establish the right balance of functions and parallel activities among the principal organs of the United Nations. Reference was again made to paragraph 153 of the 2005 World Summit outcome document (Assembly resolution 60/1) and to paragraph 35 of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels (Assembly resolution 67/1), in which the importance of continuing efforts to reform the Security Council was stressed. It was reiterated that the reform of the Organization should be carried out in accordance with the principles and procedures established by the Charter.

3. Several delegations expressed support for the proposal as a means of reforming and revitalizing the Organization.

4. The view was reiterated that the proposal was duplicative of other efforts aimed at revitalizing the Organization. Opposition was expressed to the establishment of an open-ended working group.

5. The sponsor delegation requested that the working paper should be retained on the work programme of the Special Committee. It reiterated its intention to continue to hold bilateral discussions on the proposal and welcomed suggestions to further improve the working paper.